

Where do I recycle old fluorescent bulbs?

For bulbs from your home, simply take them to any location listed below. Commercial businesses with spent fluorescent bulbs should contact Lane County Waste Management at 541-682-4120 or their local lighting supplier.

- Eugene**
Aqua Serene
2836 W. 11th Avenue
Brighter Homes Lighting
1968 W. 6th Avenue
Emerald People's Utility District (EPUD)
33733 Seavey Loop Road
Eugene True Value Hardware
2825 Willamette Street
Greater Goods
515 High Street
Heinke Electrical and Lighting
645 Adams Street
Jerry's Home Improvement Center
2600 Highway 99 N.
Lane Electric Cooperative
787 Bailey Hill Road
NextStep Recycling
2101 W. 10th Avenue
The Green Store
500 Olive Street

- Springfield**
Jerry's Home Improvement Center
2525 Olympic Street
Oregon's Constant Gardener
423 Q Street

- Junction City**
B and I True Value Hardware
120 W. 6th Avenue

- Cottage Grove and Creswell**
Cascade Home Center
49 S. 6th Street, Cottage Grove
104 S. Mill Street, Creswell

RECYCLE

- How much energy do fluorescents save?
They use up to 75% less energy.
- How much longer do fluorescent bulbs last?
They last about 10 times longer.
- How much money do fluorescents save?
More than \$30 over the life of an average fluorescent bulb.
- Want to save \$100?
Just replace three incandescent bulbs with fluorescents.



The residential recycling program for fluorescent bulbs is offered to you by:

- Blachly-Lane Electric Cooperative
- Emerald People's Utility District (EPUD)
- Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB)
- Lane County Waste Management
- Lane Electric Cooperative
- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- Springfield Utility Board (SUB)



This brochure was created by the Public Affairs department at EWEB.



Recycle Your Old Fluorescent Bulbs

Garbage cans and landfills are not the best place to hurl the swirl

Recycle your burned out fluorescents

Because of a small amount of mercury in fluorescent bulbs and linear tubes, these should be recycled rather than thrown in the trash.

Lane County Waste Management, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, and local electric utilities in the Eugene-Springfield area have teamed up with local retailers to create a convenient residential recycling program for spent compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs and linear fluorescent tubes (4-foot maximum on tubes).

For the location of a participating retailer near you, see the list of recycling locations in this brochure.

Why recycle?

Fluorescent bulbs contain a small amount of mercury—an average of 4 milligrams of mercury is sealed within the glass tubing—and this makes it possible for the bulb to be incredibly efficient.

The tiny amount of mercury in fluorescent bulbs does not make them unsafe for homes and poses no health risk while these bulbs are in use, but we are working to prevent large accumulations of mercury from entering landfills, being released from the bulbs, and polluting the environment.

Handling fluorescent bulbs

To reduce the possibility of breakage while delivering used bulbs to a recycling location, you can place used bulbs in a cardboard box or sealed plastic bag.

If a bulb does break, carefully clean up the glass fragments and phosphor powder using a piece of stiff paper so your fingers aren't in contact with broken pieces. Place the broken pieces in a plastic bag, and use a damp paper towel or sticky tape to pick up any stray shards of glass or fine particles. Put any used paper, paper towel, or tape in the bag along with the remains of the bulb.

Then deliver the bag with the broken bulb to the Lane County Transfer Station in Glenwood, which is located at 3100 E. 17th Avenue (just off Glenwood Boulevard).

If you'd like more information about recycling fluorescents, call Lane County Waste Management at **541-682-4120**, or visit www.epa.gov/mercury.



Fluorescent bulbs come in a variety of shapes and sizes. The most common bulb in homes is the compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulb with the swirl of glass tubing shown at left.

Save energy, money, and the environment with fluorescent bulbs

Fluorescent lights save energy, lower your electric bill, and with their longer lifespan, you'll spend less time shopping for and replacing light bulbs. Their efficiency and long life offers a way for you to protect the environment by reducing landfill waste and the harmful greenhouse gas emissions from power plants that are a cause of global climate change.

Changing a 100-watt incandescent bulb to a compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulb cuts the equivalent of burning about 100 lbs. of coal.

As each home in America replaces one more incandescent bulb with an energy efficient CFL, enough energy is saved to light more than 3 million homes for a year and prevent greenhouse gas emissions equal to that of 800,000 cars.



In the U.S., all light bulbs will be required to be 70% more efficient than today's incandescent bulbs by the year 2020, which is equal to today's CFLs. Other countries are moving more quickly: Australia is ending the sale of incandescent bulbs as of 2010, and Canada as of 2012.

Experts agree that given a choice between fluorescent lights and ordinary incandescent bulbs, fluorescents are a much better deal for you and the environment. When buying bulbs, choose CFLs with the Energy Star rating because mercury content must be limited, and these bulbs must meet higher standards for energy use, start and warm-up times, brightness, color, and bulb life.